(a) if so, the details thereof;

(b) by when, it is likely to be completed; and

(c) the expenditure to be spent on this?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS MAJOR GENERAL (RETD.) (B.C. KHANDURI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(a) Four laning of 20 km stretch from Jallandhar towards Amritsar will be taken up under budgetary support by National Highways Authority of India, for which bids are being invited. For the remaining length of National Highways between Jallandhar and Wagha Border (via Amritsar) various alternatives of funding such as External Assistance, Private Sector Participation and budgetary support are under consideration.

(b) and (d) Expenditure to be incurred will be known after work is awarded. Target for completion of 4-laning of 20 Km. Stretch from Jallandhar side is June 2006. For the remainign length target is not finalised.

Accidents on Indian Roads

3075. SHRI S.M. LALJAN BASHA: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(c) whether it is a fact that international organisations have given India the dubious reputation of being the worst accident affected and accident-prone country in the world;

(d) whether Government have received such negative recognition internationally;

(a) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) what are the steps proposed by Government to remove this negative impression?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS MAJOR GENERAL (RETD.) (B.C. KHANDURI): (a) and (b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.